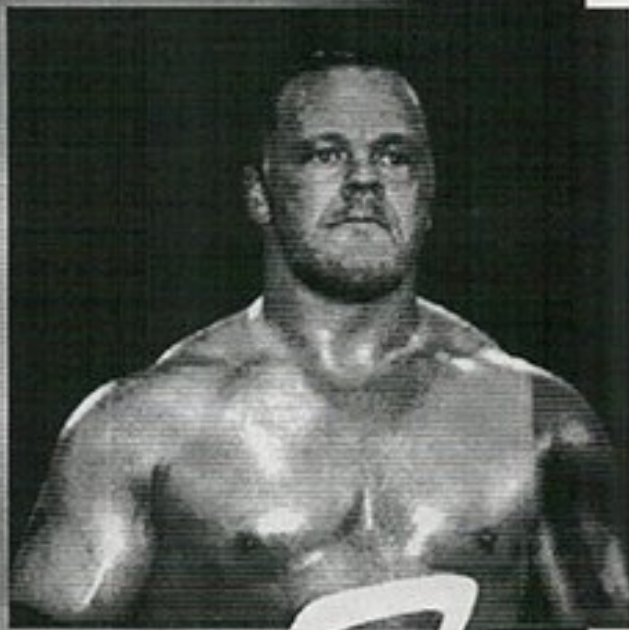


WHO IS GUILTY AS CHARGED?



7

SABU TRIES TO FOCUS
ON SHANE DOUGLAS &
THE WORLD TITLE, BUT
"THE FRANCHISE" & TAZ
HAVE OTHER PLANS. READ
THE COMPLETE STORY INSIDE!

bring it, punk!



TAP OUT

The Real Story Of Storm And Lynn

On television the story between Lance Storm and Jerry Lynn is rather simple. Lynn wants to score that elusive victory on the cocky Storm. Lynn has not been able to beat Storm due to interference from Mikey Whipwreck among others and now he wants a clean match to prove that he is the better man. Simple enough, huh? Well the real story goes much deeper than that.

Not even eight months ago Lynn and Storm were very good friends outside the ring. They traveled together, trained together and shared the same philosophy. Their goals were simple. They wanted to be known as wrestlers. They wanted to be recognized as classic athletes who didn't need to rely on a gimmick to get over. Then something happened inside Storm's head. Before the Wrestlepalooza pay-per-view Storm chose Rob Van Dam to be his partner in a dream partner tag team match against Sabu & Chris Candido. Those close to Storm said that the Calgary native saw this as his opportunity to shine next to a flashy, but comparable, grappler in Van Dam. Instead, in a pre-match promo, the man who trained in Stu Hart's infamous dungeon suffered one of the most indignifying moments of his career.

"That promo did hit him very hard," Lynn said. "You could really see a change in him after that."

Van Dam, in front of the world, told Storm that he had no flavor, no character and that well, he was boring. At that moment Storm's ego deflated or, should we say, metamorphosed. Storm knew he had the conditioning, knowledge and talent to be as good as anyone in the sport. He started telling himself that. Then he started telling others that. With that one interview Storm re-examined his whole philosophy on the business. Storm started to become an arrogant asshole.

"On the road all he started talking about was how great he was," Lynn said. "He wouldn't shut up. There were a lot of late night trips that I just wanted to slap him and tell him to shut the f*** up."

The relationship between Lynn and Storm soon became strained. It got worse when a young, female brunette approached Storm before a show. At the time Storm was in the midst of a feud against Candido and Tammy Lynn Sytch. This young lady told Storm that she would take care of Sytch. The woman, now known as Tammy Lynn Bytch, started to feed Storm's ego. She constantly told him what a stud he was. Storm ate up every minute of it. At that point, Lynn couldn't stand either of them anymore and started looking for an alternative way to get to the shows. But that wasn't the final nail in the coffin of their relationship.

Lynn soon began a series of competitive matches against Whipwreck. In town after town, fans and critics were raving at how good these bouts were. They were pure scientific, high-flying contests that featured wrestling at its best. Storm's inflated ego couldn't take the fact that his former best friend was gaining the accolades that he wanted. A cocky Storm wanted to prove that he was better than Lynn not just to climb the ratings,



not just to impress the fans, but to show his former friend that he was the better man. And it didn't matter to Storm that he had to abandon his old philosophy of hard work to cheat to do it.

"The bottom line is that I'm so talented that I said I could beat Jerry and Mikey," Storm said, "and I did. Do you really think I ever liked traveling with Jerry listening to that death metal crap. Now I travel with a woman so beautiful that she had to look to Canada to find a real man."

Every man in this situation is guilty of a wrong doing to another. The charges seem to mount every weekend. Maybe even tonight a few more may surface, but we will find out who is "Guilty As Charged" January 10th live on pay-per-view as a winner will be decided once-in-for all.



The True Plans Of Taz & Douglas

ECW World Champion "The Franchise" Shane Douglas has always used his intellect to survive. In a time when Douglas is faced with more adversity than ever before, he has either devised his most brilliant plan yet or he has outsmarted himself.

1998 has not been a good year physically for Douglas. His major injuries have been well documented, but he has also suffered many minor ailments that have kept him from being close to 100% for the entire year. Some inside the ECW locker room wonder if Douglas is even in worse condition than he is letting on. Douglas has always overcome these injuries though, but he has needed a little help from his Triple Threat cohorts to do so. Now Bam Bam Bigelow is gone and Chris Candido is missing in action. Douglas must face his opponents with the knowledge that he has no enforcers ready to run in from the locker room at a moment's notice.

"Do you think I would even talk to Taz if I didn't have to," Douglas said. "I took an honest look at my situation and I knew what I had to do. I have that scarred up freak Sabu to contend with. I'd rather battle a wrestler like Taz than a freak like Sabu any day. Taz knows that to get to me, I have to get past Sabu. I did the only thing that makes sense for both Taz and I."

The scarred up freak Sabu seems to have Douglas' number. If you look back at the few single matches between the two in ECW history, there has been no clear cut victor. Not only that, but Sabu has scored two recent pinfalls over Douglas in tag team matches and the two battled to a controversial double pin just over a month ago in Pittsburgh. Sabu has proven he can beat Douglas, but "The Franchise" has yet to soundly defeat Sabu. In addition, Sabu has shown new levels of viciousness lately as he has bloodied Douglas on a number of occasions with a steel spike. Sabu can taste the blood of the world champion and it is obvious he will do anything to get that world title back around his waist.

"Sabu loves that world title, daddy," Sabu's manager Bill Alfonso said. "He had it for one week and he wants it more. He dreams of that belt every night. He's gonna be more homicidal, genocidal and suicidal than ever before to get that strap."

But perhaps Douglas' plan goes deeper than just getting Taz to protect him by taking out Sabu. "The Franchise" knows that Taz and Sabu share a deep hatred. Any spark between the two can cause a full-blown explosion. Douglas may have tried to cause that spark hoping that his top two challengers would turn their attention away from the world title and towards each other. Douglas would like nothing more than to watch the top two challengers try to destroy each other. While the plan seemed to work at the ECW Arena on November 21st when Taz tried to purposely break Sabu's neck with the first ever Taz-mission turned into a Taz-plex, it got a little more complex in Ft. Lauderdale on November 27th.

As Sabu was battling Roadkill, Douglas screamed across the arena for Taz to finish the job. All Taz did was

laugh. Taz has made it clear that he will choose his spots. But we all know Taz and we all know Taz always has a covert plan that benefits only himself. Maybe this was Taz's way of mentally screwing with Douglas.

"I do what I want when I want to do it," Taz said. "It's that simple. I hate Sabu. I owed Sabu three receipts for stealing my kill, hitting me in the head with a chair and taking my number one contender's spot at the last pay-per-view. I gave him one back at the ECW Arena. I still owe Sabu one receipt and I'll finish the job when I want to. Maybe I'll do it tonight, maybe I won't. It's up to me."

Receipt number two came at the beginning of December in Buffalo, New York. Taz once again purposely suplexed Sabu on his neck. Once again the challenger's chronic weak point, his neck, was damaged. However, it has not been enough to knock Sabu out of action- yet.

"I know Taz will finish the job," Douglas said. "I've offered him too much not too. He has the world at his finger tips. I'll give him money, I'll give him the most beautiful woman in the world Francine (pictured), but even more so, putting Sabu out is the only way to get to the gold."

Taz ultimately wants the ECW world title. He has been obsessed with it for almost a year now. There is a chance that Taz is buying into Douglas' plan or that Taz just sees this as an opportunity to get his hands on Sabu, but anyone who knows Taz knows that he always has his own agenda. Taz may just be setting up Douglas. Then again, Taz may not even have the patience to follow his plan. The Path Of Rage can explode anytime. Taz could snap at any moment. Douglas and the world title may be in more danger than anyone can even comprehend. We will find out who is "Guilty As Charged" on January 10th.



A WORLD TITLE CHANGE IN JAPAN

Bill Alfonso took the biggest gamble of his life and as a result proved to be perhaps the best manager in the game today.

Fonzie knew that Sabu and Rob Van Dam, who have always shared tension, were growing more distant than usual after losing the world tag team straps. Even professionally their goals were very different. Van Dam had the world television title on his mind while Sabu had one eye on Shane Douglas and the other on Taz. Alfonso needed to pull his men back together and into a team. The only way he decided he could do that was threaten their existence as a tag team. Alfonso put his meal ticket on the line. On a television interview, Fonzie stated that if Van Dam and Sabu did not win the world tag team titles in Japan, he would break up the team forever.

Then world and record breaking five-time tag team champions Bubba and D-Von Dudley started salivating upon hearing this news. There is nothing The Dudley Boys love doing more than breaking up tag teams. They did it with The Gangstas, they did it with The Eliminators, now they could do it to the fan's favorite again. Bubba knew one way to really gain the ire of the public though. Bubba wanted to prove a point. He wanted to show that he and D-Von were indeed the best tag team in the world and in a move he might have grown to regret, he left Big Dick, Sign Guy and Joel Gertner at home. This was going to be an even match.

"I knew the straps were in the bag," Alfonso said. "Van Dam and Sabu were extra motivated that night, daddy. I knew that they didn't want to separate as a team and that they wouldn't let it happen."

So the stage was set in Tokyo's Korakuen Hall, which has been called Japan's ECW Arena, on December 13th. The back and forth brawl saw tables and chairs used throughout the contest. D-Von gained the advantage with a neck-breaker out of the corner on Van Dam.



However, a triple jump moonsault by Sabu on D-Von and a Van Dam somersault dive on Bubba evened the odds. After more brawling and several double team moves Van Dam connected two Van Daminators on Bubba busting the big man open. Upon the second Van Daminator, Sabu crashed onto D-Von with the Arabian facebuster resulting in a double pin and new champions.

"Hey I brought us the gold again," Van Dam said. "As if there was any doubt that we would beat The Dudleys. Afterall, I am the whole f***** show."

ECW's two day invasion of Korakuen Hall as a guest of the FMW promotion saw The Dudleys first successfully defend the world tag team titles against FMW's Tetsuhiro Kurodo and Gosaku after hitting Kurodo with 3D on December 12th. Shane Douglas put the ECW world title on the line in a victory over Gedo. Sabu and Rob Van Dam scored a victory over the first time team of Hayabusa and Tommy Dreamer in 17:17 in an exciting bout that could have gone either way before Van Dam pinned Dreamer after a frog splash.

Douglas successfully defended the world title again on December 13th by defeating Dreamer. It appeared Dreamer had the title after a Spiccoli driver, but Douglas kicked out. "The Franchise" thought he had scored the victory after the belly-to-belly, but Dreamer rose his shoulder on the two count. "The Innovator Of Violence" appeared to have the title won when he had Douglas set up for a DDT, but Francine made an impact in her Japanese debut weekend by interfering. Finally Douglas scored the pin after the fisherman's buster.

"I made this world belt the most prestigious world title in wrestling this weekend," Douglas said. "After a 14 hour plane ride and an ordeal to get to the building, I put the world title on the line on two consecutive nights against the toughest opponents they could find. That is why I'm 'The Franchise' and a true world heavyweight champion."



EXTREME ACTION REPORT

December 4th
in
Pittsburgh,
Pa at the
David
Lawrence
Convention
Center: Tommy
Rogers beat

Mike Lozansky; Masato Tanaka won a king of the hill battle royal to earn a world title shot vs. Shane Douglas with Francine that night; Danny Doring & Road Kill beat Super Nova & Tommy Dreamer when Credible interefered and caused Dreamer to be pinned; Bubba Ray & D-Von Dudley with Sign Guy Dudley as presented by Joel Gertner beat John Kronus & Spike Dudley. Before the bout Bubba berated several members of the Pittsburgh Steelers at ringside before provoking them to hit the ring. While security kept most of the Steelers back Sam Fuamatu'Mafala nailed Bubba with a tackle; Chris Chetti beat Justin Credible with Jason & Chastity after Dreamer hit Creidble in the head with a television set; Lance Storm with Tammy Lynn Bytch beat Mikey Whipwreck; Sabu with Bill Alfonso beat Balls Mahoney; Douglas pinned Tanaka in a scientific classic

Dec. 5th in Buffalo, NY at the Burt Flickinger Center: Rogers beat Lozansky; Spike beat Spanish Angel; The Full Blooded Italians of Tracey Smothers & Little Guido with Tommy Rich and newest member The One Man Gang defeated Nova & Dreamer with help from Credible; Big Dick Dudley beat John Kronus; Tanaka beat Credible after Dreamer interefered; The Dudley Boys captured a three-way dance over the teams of Taz & Shane Douglas and Rob Van Dam & Sabu; New Jack beat Rod Price; Mahoney beat Doring; Van Dam with Bill Alfonso beat Storm in a classic

Dec. 6th in Altoona, Pa at the Jaffa Mosque: Rogers beat Angel; FBI beat Chetti & Nova; Price beat Dreamer after Credible nailed Dreamer with the Singapore cane; Whipwreck beat

Doring; Spike, with some help from Dreamer, beat Credible; Douglas beat One Man Gang; The Dudleys beat Balls & Axl Rotten in a barbed wire baseball bat match blood bath; Van Dam beat Storm



NEW TALENT REPORT

Expect to see some new faces debut on EGV's roster in the upcoming weeks. Japan's Tajiri and Mexico's Antifaz Del Norte will be at the EGV Arena. Tajiri is known as a serious grappler with explosive suplexes. Norte, who some may remember from WWF, is a notable, high-flying talent. One of Mexico's top young grapplers Super Crazy is scheduled to come in after the New Year. Rumored to make their returns are Wolfie D formerly of PG-13 and Southern, veteran, scientific grappler Rex King. Rumors are also circulating that a few of the Northeast's top independent prospects may soon be seen EGV.

Publisher: Gabe Sapolsky
Special Thanks: Lyda Heller and Copytek Systems
Photos by: George Tahonis, Mark Steiglitz &
Howard Kernats

Extreme Championship Wrestling
Ag Hall, Allentown, Pennsylvania
Thursday, December 17th, 1998, 8:00pm

@wrestlingscans



Appearing Tonight:

ECW World Champion
Shane Douglas
with Francine

"The Franchise" Is Irrate After N2R

ECW World Tag Team Champions
Sabu & Rob Van Dam

with Bill Alfonso

Ready For All Challengers

ECW World Television Champion
Rob Van Dam

with Bill Alfonso

Has An Open Contract To Defend Any Belt He Wants

FTW Champion
Taz

When Will The Third Receipt Come?

Justin Credible
with Jason & Chastity

Wants To Avenge His N2R Loss To Dreamer

Tommy Dreamer

Distraught About Funk, Still Wants To Shut Up Credible

Bubba & D-Von Dudley
with Sign Guy Dudley & Joel Gertner
They Want The World Tag Team Titles Back

Spike Dudley

The Acid Drop Keeps Leaving The Big Guys Down

Tracey Smothers & Little Guido

with Tommy Rich

Po'ed Cause The Spaghetti Sauce In Allentown Sucks

New Jack

He Has His Eyes On Credible's Assassins

John Kronus

Kronus Is Confused

Balls Mahoney & Axl Rotten

Still Looking For Revenge Against The Dudleys

One Man Gang

The New Enforcer For The FBI

Rod Price

This Tough Guy Has Credible's Back

Tommy Rogers

This Veteran Is A "Tomakaze" Away From Pinning Anyone

Lance Storm

with Tammy Lynn Bytch

Thinks He's Better Cause He's From Canada

Plus: Super Nova, Chris Chetti, Danny Doring, Roadkill, Sal E. Graziano, more!

Tonight's Referees: Jim Molineaux, Jeff Jones, John "Pee Wee" Moore

Write In Tonight's Results Below. Check Next To The Winners:

Match 1: _____ vs. _____

Match 5: _____ vs. _____

Match 2: _____ vs. _____

Match 6: _____ vs. _____

Match 3: _____ vs. _____

Match 7: _____ vs. _____

Match 4: _____ vs. _____

Match 8: _____ vs. _____

Notes: _____

Upcoming Events: Thank you for attending ECW's long awaited return to Allentown!

>This Saturday will see a national tv taping at the world famous ECW Arena. 215-755-4177 for info & tickets

>Sunday December 27th in Wilkes-Barre, Pa at The Armory. 215-579-2399 for tix and info

www.ecwwrestling.com; Card Subject To Change